



**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP ART UNIT 1635**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Maria PALASIS

Serial No.: 09/542,935

Filing Date: April 4, 2000

For: Insertable or Implantable Medical Devices
Suitable for Gene Therapy Regimens

Art Unit : 1635

Examiner : B. Whiteman

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Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Oct 3, 2003.

Elizabeth M. Wieckowski
Elizabeth M. Wieckowski (Reg. No. 42,226)

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

S I R:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed June 4, 2003 setting forth a shortened statutory response period of three months. Accordingly, a response was due on September 4, 2003. Applicant is concurrently submitting a Petition Under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 (a) for a one-month extension of time in which to respond to the June 4, 2003 Office Action. The petition is accompanied by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e). The one-month extended period expires on Saturday, October 4, 2003. Under 37 C.F.R. §1.7 when the day for taking any action or paying any fee in the U.S.P.T.O. falls on a Saturday, Sunday or on a Federal holiday within the District of Columbia, the action may be taken on the next succeeding business day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or on a Federal holiday, i.e. Monday, October 6, 2003. Accordingly, Applicant is timely submitting this response and amendment. Applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing amendments and remarks place the subject application into condition for allowance.

Please enter the following amendments.